For Immediate Release
Friday, June 30, 2006

BROOKS ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH VETERANS OUTREACH CENTER
County to Purchase All Its Flags from Local Veterans Organization

Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks, joined by Tom Cray, Executive Director of the Veterans Outreach Center, today announced a new partnership between Monroe County and the Veterans Outreach Center for the purchase of flags. Under the terms of the contract signed by the County Executive, Monroe County will be purchasing all of its American flags, State flags, County flags, City of Rochester flags, and Prisoner-of-War/Missing-in-Action Flags from the Veterans Outreach Center.

"This new partnership between Monroe County and the Veterans Outreach Center allows us to conduct one-stop shopping, saves money for our taxpayers, and supports the great work of our local veterans," said Monroe County Executive **Maggie Brooks**. *"I am proud of this new partnership, and honored that Monroe County is now purchasing the 'stars and stripes' from the very people who have done so much to protect and defend our freedom."*

This contract also continues County Executive Maggie Brooks' commitment to inter-governmental cooperation. Under the terms of the contract, other local governments and school districts within Monroe County will be able to purchase their flags from the Veterans Outreach Center using the County's preferred pricing rate.

Veterans organizations are considered a "preferred source" for government purchasing under state law, and are exempt from bidding requirements. In addition, the new contract brings taxpayers a savings of $502.12, a cost reduction of 7.6%.

County Executive Brooks, joined by Cray, and Jim Carra, Director of the County's Veterans Service Agency, raised a new American Flag outside the County Office Building at the conclusion of the announcement. The new flag was provided by the Veterans Outreach Center.

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